

Message Text

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INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY PAPERS
FRONTPAGED KISSINGER; SOME WEDNESDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED
UNCLASSIFIED

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AF GEN. BROWN TO LEAD JOINT CHIEFS. COMMENT SCATTERED.

1A. MONDAY WASHSTAR FRONTPAGED LOCAL STORY ON NUKES IN
EUROPE; TUESDAY PAPERS REPORTED EX-PENTAGON OFFICIALS

URGE CUTTING DEFENSE BUDGET BY ELEVEN BILLIONS. TUESDAY WASHPOST HAD KENNEDY URGES TOTAL TEST BAN; NYTIMES HAD FINNEY, ZUMWALT SAYS U.S. HAS LOST CONTROL OF SEA LANES.

1B. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN HAD WASHINGTON AP, NO DECISION MADE ON CHEMICAL ARMS. THURSDAY PAPERS HAVE STORY ON SAVINGS FROM ARMS TREATY; NYTIMES HAS MONTANA MISSILE TEST OPPOSED BY SEN. ABOUREZK AS HAZARD TO LIVES AND PROPERTY. PAPERS ALSO REPORT U.S. TO WITHDRAW TWO-THIRDS OF B-52S FROM THAILAND BY AUGUST.

2. CHEMWAR. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN WASHINGTON AP REPORTED LEON SLOSS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF STATE DEPARTMENT'S POLITICO-MILITARY AFFAIRS BUREAU, SAID NIXON ADMINISTRATION

HAS MADE NO FINAL DECISION TO MANUFACTURE NEW BINARY CHEMICAL WEAPONS EVEN THOUGH CONGRESS HAS BEEN ASKED FOR PRODUCTION MONEY. AP REPORTED SLOSS SAID POLICY ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS IS STILL UNDER REVIEW, ADDING HE SUSPECTED PENTAGON REQUESTED THE 5.8 MILLIONS IN PRODUCTION MONEY AS A HEDGE TO BE READY TO MOVE IF ADMINISTRATION DECIDES TO INDEED MANUFACTURE BINARY CHEMICAL WEAPONS. AP ADDED REP. BINGHAM SAID IT WAS CLEAR TO HIM THERE IS A BATTLE WITHIN ADMINISTRATION ON WHETHER TO APPROVE THE BINARIES.

2A. NYPOST EDITORIAL MAY 11 DECLARED THERE IS NO MORE NEED FOR ANOTHER GENERATION OF NERVE GASES THAN THERE IS FOR THE FLINTLOCK MUSKET; EVEN A FEW QUESTIONS DEMONSTRATE THE ABSURDITY OF A BUREAUCRATIC ROUTINE THAT INSISTS ON NEW WEAPONRY WHETHER REALISTIC DEFENSE CONSIDERATION REQUIRE IT OR NOT.

3. TESTS. TUESDAY WASHPOST O'TOOLE REPORTED SEN. KENNEDY IN FLOOR SPEECH CALLED FOR U.S. TO SEEK A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN INSTEAD OF A THRESHOLD BAN THAT WOULD LIMIT THE SIZE AND NUMBER OF UNDERGROUND ATOMIC TESTS. UNCLASSIFIED

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ACCORDING O'TOOLE, KENNEDY QUESTIONED THE RATIONALE FOR A THRESHOLD TEST BAN WHICH COULD PERMIT A WHOLE NEW FAMILY OF MINI-NUKES, THUS RAISING A NEW THREAT OF AN ARMS RACE AT THE LEVEL OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONRY, A RACE WHOSE END RESULT COULD BE TO BLUR THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS. ACCORDING O'TOOLE, U.S ARMS EXPERTS OPPOSE AN OUTRIGHT BAN ON NUCLEAR TESTING BECAUSE THEY FEAR SUCH A BAN WOULD CLOSE DOWN THE ATOMIC WEAPONS LABORATORIES, ADDING THAT THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN WEAPONS DESIGN WOULD LEAVE THE PROGRAM IF THERE WERE NO TESTING TO KEEP THEM CHALLENGED, ONE ARMS EXPERT SAYING THAT THEN U.S. WOULD BE UNABLE TO RESPOND TO ANY KIND OF

UNFORESEEN THREAT IN TEN YEARS' TIME SINCE YOU CAN'T PUT A WEAPONS LAB BACK TOGETHER OVERNIGHT. O'TOOLE SAID KENNEDY ALSO URGED ADOPTION OF TEST BAN PARTLY TO ENCOURAGE OTHER NATIONS TO SIGN THE NPT AND IF WE SEEK TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO JOIN THE TREATY THE SUPERPOWERS CANNOT GO HALFWAY IN THEIR OWN WILLINGNESS TO RESTRAIN NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT.

3A. PROVIDENCE JOURNAL MAY 7 EDITORIAL ON REPORTS U.S. RUSSIA ARE CONSIDERING PARTIAL BAN ON UNDERGROUND TESTS SAID AN ABSOLUTE BAN WOULD BE BETTER BUT THIS MIGHT

WELL BE A START.

4. ARMS TREATY SAVING. THURSDAY NYTIMES BALTSUN HAVE WASHINGTON AP REPORTING ACDA SAID U.S. WILL HAVE SAVED ABOUT 6.5 BILLIONS IN MILITARY SPENDING BY 1988 BECAUSE OF FIRST TREATY WITH SOVIET UNION LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS, THE ACDA-SPONSORED STUDY ADDING THAT TREATY HAS HAD A LESS SERIOUS IMPACT ON LOCAL ECONOMIES THAN FIRST FEARED. NYTIMES VERSION ADDS STUDY WAS BY GENERAL RESEARCH CORPORATION OF SANTA BARBARA.

5. JOINT CHIEFS. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST GETLER REPORTS IN HIS STORY ON GEN. BROWN'S NOMINATION TO HEAD JOINT CHIEFS THAT BROWN HEADED SEVENTH AIR FORCE IN VIETNAM IN 1970 AT A TIME WHEN SOME FALSE REPORTING OF TACTICAL AIR STRIKES IN CAMBODIA WAS APPARENTLY CARRIED OUT AND UNCLASSIFIED

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BROWN MAY FACE FURTHER QUESTIONING ABOUT THAT FROM SEN. HUGHES. GETLER, COMMENTING ON IMPACT OF CHANGES AT JOINT CHIEFS, REPORTS ZUMWALT HAS TAKEN THE HARDEST LINE IN DEALING WITH SOVIET UNION, A FACTOR WHICH COULD AFFECT FUTURE FORMULATIONS OF U.S. NUCLEAR ARMS POLICIES AIMED AT REACHING A NEW SALT AGREEMENT, BECAUSE ZUMWALT BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT U.S. LAND-BASED MISSILES WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME EXTREMELY VULNERABLE TO SOVIET MISSILE ATTACK, WHEREAS BROWN, WHOSE SERVICE RUNS THE LAND-BASED ICBM PROGRAMS, SAID IN A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH WASHPOST THAT HE WASN'T SO SURE OF THAT.

6. NUKES IN EUROPE. MONDAY WASHSTAR SHERMAN REPORTED GROWING CONTROVERSY OVER SIZE OF AMERICAN NUCLEAR STOCKPILE IN EUROPE, AS PROS AND CONS ARE BEING DEBATED PUBLICLY FOR FIRST TIME IN TEN YEARS, FOLLOWING TESTIMONY BEFORE SYMINGTON'S SUBCOMMITTEE BY ENTHOVEN AND WARNKE WHO SAID ONLY ONE THOUSAND INSTEAD OF 7000 WARHEADS ARE NEEDED IN EUROPE AND REAL FOCUS OF WESTERN DEFENSE SHOULD BE STRONG CONVENTIONAL FORCES. SHERMAN SAYS SCHLESINGER IS CLEARLY ON DEFENSIVE, AS EUROPEAN OFFICIALS AGREE WITH ENTHOVEN THAT USE OF SMALL-YIELD TACTICAL NUCLEAR

WARHEADS IN A LIMITED NUCLEAR WAR COULD COST BETWEEN TWO AND TWENTY MILLION LIVES AND VIRTUAL DESTRUCTION OF EUROPE. ACCORDING SHERMAN, THE KNOWLEDGE THAT 7000 NUKES ARE THERE KEEPS UNITED STATES HOSTAGE TO EUROPE, ADDING THAT THIS ARSENAL OF NUKES IS OBVIOUSLY A BARGAINING CHIP IN TWO HIGHLY DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MOSCOW--AT VIENNA AND SALT. SHERMAN REPORTED TOP U.S. OFFICIALS INSIST THAT NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY HAS SO IMPROVED SINCE ENTHOVEN LEFT GOVERNMENT THAT, WITH MORE ACCURATE WARHEADS, NUCLEAR ARTILLERY CAN BE USED ON THE BATTLEFIELD WITHOUT DESTROYING EUROPE.

6A. MINNEAPOLIS STAR EDITORIAL MAY 12 STRESSED POWERFULNESS OF TACTICAL NUKES AND FAVORED A REDUCTION IN THE EXCESSIVE NUMBERS OF TACTICAL WEAPONS IN EUROPE.

7. BUDGET. TUESDAY LOS ANGELES TIMES HAD WASHINGTON UPI REPORTING A GROUP OF FORMER DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY OFFICIALS, MENTIONING WARNKE HALPERIN FISHER, CHARGED UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT ADMINISTRATION HAD DELIBERATELY INFLATED THE 1975 DEFENSE BUDGET TO COPE WITH AN EXPECTED RECESSION AND THEREFORE ADVOCATED CUTTING THAT BUDGET BY ELEVEN BILLIONS WHICH COULD BE DONE WITHOUT WEAKENING U.S. DEFENSES. WARNKE MAINTAINED THIS IS A WHOLLY INAPPROPRIATE WAY TO STIMULATE THE ECONOMY. BALTSUN CORDDRY AND WASHINGTON POST GETLER WERE SIMILAR, STRESSING PROPOSALS TO CUT OUT STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARMS PROGRAMS INCLUDING TRIDENT AND B-1 BOMBER.

7A. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN EDITORIAL NOTES WARNKE GROUP OBJECTS TO INCREASE IN OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY OF SIX BILLIONS, POINTING OUT THAT THIS IS ALMOST TRIPLE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR ENERGY RESEARCH. NOTING ALSO TREASURY SECRETARY SIMON'S DESIRE FOR A BALANCED BUDGET, SUN SAYS THIS MAY WELL BE THE TIME FOR DEEP DEFENSE CUTS.

8. COMMENT. WEDNESDAY EVANS NOVAK WROTE THEIR COLUMN ON PENTAGON'S NEW QUOTE STAND-OFF UNQUOTE OPTION, WHICH IS A FLEET OF U.S. BOMBERS OR WIDE-BODIED COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT ARMED WITH LONG-RANGE MISSILES AND CAPABLE OF CIRCLING SOVIET UNION AT A DISTANCE OF 1500 TO 3000 MILES, COLUMNISTS SAYING: SINCE MOSCOW COULDN'T BEGIN TO MATCH THIS NEW SYSTEM IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE, IT HOPEFULLY WOULD BE COMPELLED TO AGREE TO THE REAL AIM OF SALT: SOVIET AGREEMENT TO LIMIT MIRVING ITS MISSILES. COLUMN ADDS THAT THERE IS TODAY NO ARMS EXPERT IN ADMINISTRATION STILL NOURISHING THE ILLUSION THAT MOSCOW WILL AGREE TO ANY MEANINGFUL MIRV LIMITATION WITHOUT SOMETHING NEW ADDED TO U.S. BARGAINING POWER; THAT SOMETHING NEW IS THE STAND-OFF OPTION. AIR FORCE GENERALS

REJECTED THE COMMERCIAL-CARRIER SYSTEM, FEARING IT WOULD
THREATEN A NEW B-1 BOMBER, BUT NOW THAT CRUISE MISSILES
HAVE BEEN ADDED IN REVISED STAND-OFF SYSTEM THE GENERALS
FEEL THIS MIGHT STRENGTHEN CASE FOR B-1. COLUMN SAYS
SOME PENTAGON STRATEGISTS FORESEE POSSIBILITY OF FLIGHT-
TESTING CRUISE MISSILE WITHIN TWO YEARS AND SOVIET UNION
IS BELIEVED TO BE MORE THAN TEN YEARS AWAY FROM DEVELOPING
EVEN THE FUEL TECHNOLOGY NEEDED TO PROPEL THE CRUISE
MISSILE; THUS MOSCOW WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO THIS
SIGNIFICANT UPSET IN THE PRESENT BALANCE OF NUCLEAR
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POWER. SITUATION, SAY EVANS NOVAK, MIGHT THEN BE ROUGHLY
PARALLEL TO THAT OF 1972 WHEN RUSSIANS FINALLY AGREED
TO LIMIT THEIR OWN ABM DEFENSE WHEN CONVINCED U.S. WAS
READY TO BUILD A FAR SUPERIOR ANTI-MISSILE MISSILE.
MAYBE KREMLIN CAN BE INDUCED BY STAND-OFF OPTION TO
AGREE TO A MUTUAL LIMITATION ON MIRVS.

8A. TUESDAY WASHSTAR EDITORIAL ON SPURIOUS SUMMITRY
REFERS TO POSSIBILITY OF PARTIAL BAN ON UNDERGROUND
TESTS BEING WRAPPED UP IN TIME FOR JUNE SUMMIT. FRANKLY
WE HOPE IT WILL NOT BE, SAID STAR, AT LEAST NOT IF THE
MAIN REASON FOR RUSHING A TREATY THROUGH IS TO GIVE MR.
NIXON SOMETHING TO SIGN IN MOSCOW. STAR HOLDS EVEN
PARTIAL BAN WOULD BE RISKY, NOTING SINCE 1963 U.S.
CARRIED OUT 255 UNDERGROUND TESTS IN DEVELOPING WHOLE
NEW GENERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONRY, RANGING FROM SMALL
TACTICAL WEAPONS TO MULTIPLE STRATEGIC WARHEADS CALLED
MIRVS. RUSH

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